UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT **SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO WESTERN DIVISION**

JOHN LAMAR BARNES, #336-955, **CASE NO. C-1-02-101**

> Plaintiff, JUDGE SPIEGEL

٧.

MATTHEW THOMAS

Defendant.

DEFENDANT'S OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO ISSUE A WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS AD TESTIFICANDUM FOR **CLARENCE ROBERTS, #191-098**

Plaintiff seeks an Order to bring an inmate to Court for a trial to begin Monday, May 23, 2005. Defendant opposes Plaintiff's motion.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM PETRO Attorney General of Ohio

s/ MARIANNE RESSMAN MARIANNE PRESSMAN (0059512) **Assistant Attorney General Corrections Litigation Section** 1600 Carew Tower, 441 Vine Street Cincinnati, Ohio 45202-2809 (513) 852-3497

(513) 852-3484 Fax

E-Mail: mpressman@ag.state.oh.us

MEMORANDUM

This case is set for Trial on May 23, 2005. Plaintiff is represented by counsel, Derek Farmer. This Trial has been postponed three times on motion of Plaintiff's counsel. A Final Pretrial Conference about this case was conducted on January 25, 2005. At that time, Plaintiff's counsel had not prepared his portion of the Pre-Trial Order, nor did he supply Defendant's counsel with a list of witnesses or exhibits. On January 31, 2005, Plaintiff's counsel sent those lists to Defendant's counsel.

On April 8, 2005, realizing that the Pre-Trial Order had never been filed, Defendant's counsel sent a letter to Mr. Farmer, submitting a draft Final Pre-Trial Order, and leaving room for him to fill in any claims or additional matters that he would like to include. There was never a response to that. Subsequently, Defendant's counsel submitted the proposed Joint Final Pre-Trial Order to the Judge's chambers, without participation from Plaintiff's counsel. On May 19, 2005, this Court conducted a telephone conference with counsel, reprimanding Mr. Farmer for failing to submit his proposed Final Pre-Trial Order. Mr. Farmer filed it this date. His list of witnesses is included in his version of the Order.

Later, shortly after the phone conference with the Court, Mr. Farmer filed a Motion for Writ of Habeas Corpus Ad Testificandum seeking an inmate, Clarence Roberts, #191-098, brought to Court to testify for Plaintiff. Mr. Roberts was never named as a witness previously and Defendant's counsel has no knowledge of who he is or what his testimony would consist of. After an inquiry, Defendant's counsel learned that since 2004, Mr. Roberts and Mr. Barnes have been

cellmates. They were probably first acquainted when they were both at Southern Ohio Correctional Facility (SOCF) previously. Had Mr. Farmer felt that Mr. Roberts had relevant testimony, he could have included his name on several occasions. Since he did not, Defendant objects to bringing Mr. Roberts to court or testifying in any manner.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM PETRO Attorney General of Ohio

s/ MARIANNE RESSMAN
MARIANNE PRESSMAN (0059512)
Assistant Attorney General
Corrections Litigation Section
1600 Carew Tower, 441 Vine Street
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202-2809
(513) 852-3497
(513) 852-3484 Fax
E-Mail: mpressman@ag.state.oh.us

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing *Defendant's Opposition* was filed electronically on May 20th, 2005. Notice of this filing will be sent to all parties by operation of the Court's electronic filing system. Parties may access this filing through the Court's system.

s/ MARIANNE PRESSMAN
MARIANNE PRESSMAN (0059512)
Assistant Attorney General